



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	Group Art Unit: 3761
Kenichi Sato et al.)	Examiner: PHILIP R. WIEST
Application No.: 10/500,327)	Confirmation No.: 8954
Filed: June 28, 2004)	
For: BLOOD BAG SYSTEM AND)	
METHOD OF INACTIVATING)	
PATHOGENIC MICROORGANISMS)	

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 12, 2006, the following remarks are submitted.

The aforementioned Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different inventions. As identified in the Official Action, the two inventions are as follows.

Group I invention defined in Claims 1-6 directed to a blood bag system.

Group II invention recited in Claims 7-10 directed to a method of inactivating a pathogenic microorganism in blood.

Based on the observation that the two inventions are distinct from one another, a restriction requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the two inventions.